- Functional domain of municipalities - functions classified in terms of core, assigned by Government and others.
- Financial domain; Municipality shall have power to levy various types of taxes, user charges, fees and fines, etc.
- Municipalities may raise loan by issue of debentures or otherwise for specified purposes subject to comprehensive debt limitation policy of the State Government.
- Provision for Wards Committees.
- Re-election of dissolved council within six months.
- Provision for recall of municipal councillor.
- Provision for preparation of municipal accounting manual, separating out capital and revenues heads.
- Provisions for separate accounting heads for water supply, road, etc. and preparation of annual balance sheets by municipalities.
- Provision for appointment of a Municipal Accounts Committee.
- Flexibility in Property Tax assessment system.
- Participation of private sector, Non-Governmental Organizations and community Based Organizations in delivery of services and collection of service charges.
- State-level regulatory commission on municipal services.
- Provision for implementation of development plans by municipalities.
- Enabling provisions for rain water harvesting and use of non-conventional energy sources.

(c) Yes, Sir. The draft Model Municipal Law was circulated to all States/UTs to elicit their views/comments in April, 2003. Based on the comments received from the States/UTs by the stipulated time, the draft Model Municipal Law was finalized and circulated to all States/UTs in October, 2003 for necessary action.

Pathetic conditions of Jamuna Ghats

426. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the prevailing pathetic conditions

of Jamuna Ghats in Delhi which are not even suitable for burning the dead-bodies besides religious functions/rituals;

(b) whether Government have any action plan to save the Ghats; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that for improvement of the Jamuna Ghats, it has already drawn an action plan. The position in respect of various ghats is as under:—

(i) KUDESIA GHAT: Development of Kudesia Ghat is being done by DDA where bathing ghats are also to be constructed. Initial study for design and concept has been completed and the work is scheduled to be completed by March, 2007.

(ii) SUR BATHING GHAT: This ghat is used for bathing as well as performing religious functions/rituals and is being maintained by DDA satisfactorily.

(iii) NIGAMBODH GHAT: This ghat is under the maintenance of MCD who have indicated that the same is in a good condition. However, an upgradation of the ghat has been planned by DDA and the works are slated to be completed by March, 2005.

Besides the above the two electric crematoriums at Bela Road and Sarai Kale Khan, under the charge of MCD are also reported to be maintained satisfactorily.

Metro Rail Project in Jaipur

†427. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to run Metro Rail in varioius cities including Jaipur on the line of Delhi;

(b) if so, the time frame to implement this plan;

(c) whether some States have expressed their inability to implement this plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.